Sustainability Committee
Minutes of the Special Meeting
Video Conference
September 2, 2020

Present: Lynn Stoddard, , Katie Fratoni, Al Fratoni, Bill Lennon, Matt Lisy, Virginia Walton (staff)

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 by chairperson Stoddard.

New member Matt Lisy was welcomed.

On a motion by Fratoni/ Stoddard, the minutes of the June 10, 2020 meeting was approved.

Members reviewed the proposed multi-family zoning regulations, primarily highlighting the features that support a robust and diverse community. On a motion by Fratoni/Lennon, the Sustainability Committee will send a letter to the Planning and Zoning Commission endorsing the proposed regulation and highlighting those features that embody sustainability.

Walton gave an update on the Mansfield/Windham Solar For All campaign. Thirty six households have inquired about the program, 19 contracts have been approved and one system has been installed. Two more introductory webinars are scheduled – September 9 & 16. The campaign ends September 30, 2020. On a motion by Stoddard/Fratoni, on behalf of the Sustainability Committee, Walton submit a campaign update to Town Council.

The Planning and Zoning Commission sent a referral immediately prior to the Sustainability Committee meeting for the new school building plans. The Committee has been asked to comment on it by September 23, 2020. In order to give members time to review the plans, Walton was asked to schedule a meeting on Wednesday, September 16 at 5:30 pm if that time is available.

Walton introduced the Committee to a comprehensive solid waste bill, Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act. The co-authors of the federal bill, Senator Udall and Representative Lowenthal, have created a legislative blueprint for reducing plastic and packaging pollution to help states adopt parallel legislation. The Solid Waste Advisory Committee will be drafting a memo to the Town Council asking for their support of similar state legislation. Members were amenable to reviewing the draft and potentially endorsing it, as long as equity considerations are part of the dialogue. Walton will bring the memo to the September 16 meeting for review.

The meeting adjourned at 7:01 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton